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(c) The following are the objects:—
(1) Deep sea fishing experiments;
(2) Research as regards shoals of fishes, migration and hydrographical and other marine fishery researches;
(3) Towing of pearl fishery boats to pearl banks during pearl fisheries;
(4) Supplying fish to fish-curing yards; and
(5) Transport of salt to fish-curing yards on the West Coast.

(d) In 1926–27 the trawler was engaged in—
(1) Experimental trawling off Tuticorin and Calicut.
(2) Pearl fishery work.
(3) Salt transport.

The results are embodied in the Administration Report of the Department for the year which was placed on the Editors' Table.

In 1927–28 she conducted—
(1) Systematic experiments of deep sea fishing off Manapad and Cape Comorin on the Tinnevelly coast, with a view to exploring the trawling grounds there and collecting other materials and data for Marine Fishery research;
(2) Dredging operations off Tuticorin with a view to locating pearl oyster beds, if any, beyond the 10-fathom line, which might be serving as mother beds for replenishing the banks fished by divers; and
(3) Salt transport.
Total quantity of salt transported by trawler 62,254 maunds.

	RS.	A.	P.
Cost of transport by trawler ..	14,044	10	3
Average cost per maund	0	5	8·5
Average cost if a contractor had been engaged	0	6	5·2
Profit per maund by transport of salt by the trawler	0	0	6·7
Profit by transport of 62,254 maunds of salt by the trawler	2,172	6	5

Fishing operations by the trawler "Lady Goschen."

*305 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the trawler "Lady Goschen" caught a quantity of fish off the coast of Tinnevelly in March or so, of this year;

(*b*) if so, what the quantity was;

(*c*) what was the expenditure incurred for the operations connected with this capture, including wages and salary, coal and other stores, interest on the capital outlay for the purchase of the vessel and fishing tackle, and other incidental charges;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the fish was cured according to improved methods by a staff of curers brought from the West Coast;

(*e*) whether there was any difficulty in disposing of this cured fish even after the lapse of three or four months;

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(*f*) whether it is a fact that fish dealers in several places, including Colombo, to whom samples of it were sent, refused to buy it on account of its bad quality ;

(*g*) what was the amount received by the disposal of the fish ; and

(*h*) what action Government have taken or propose to take as to the use of the vessel, after the failure of the fishing operations of this trawler?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 26,060 lb.

(*c*) Approximately Rs. 10,965 as detailed below :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Pay of Captain Cribb for 31 days at Rs. 800 per mensem	827	0	0
Pay of crew at Rs. 945 per mensem ...	976	8	0
Provision allowance for crew at Rs. 13 a day	403	0	0
Cost of 217 tons of coal at 7 tons a day at Rs. 25 per ton	5,425	0	0
Deck stores, etc.	186	0	0
Cost of fresh water	46	8	0
Docking charges at Rs. 10,000 per year.	830	0	0
Depreciation charges	976	8	0
Interest on capital at 5 per cent ...	294	8	0
Depreciation on nets and gear	1,000	0	0
Total ...	10,965	0	0

(*d*) Yes. The fish was cured under the supervision of one overseer brought from the West Coast.

(*e*) There was some difficulty in disposing of the fish cured, as reasonable quotations were not forthcoming. The stock of fish was finally sent to Colombo and disposed of there.

(*f*) It is true that certain merchants in Ceylon to whom samples were sent were not satisfied with them but others have reported favourably ;

(1) The Superintendent, Junior Certified School, Rajahmundry, to whom parcels of cured fish were sent on two occasions, has reported that they proved to be satisfactory ; a third indent received from him could not be complied with as the stock was completely sold away by that time. The Assistant Manager, Poonjalla Valley Ceylon Company, Limited, who purchased some quantity of the cured fish, has reported as follows :

"Your fish was certainly better cured and in better condition."

(*g*) The trawler is at present engaged only in exploring and surveying the trawling grounds, testing methods of capture, and investigating the potentialities of the grounds with various modern appliances. The fish that is caught is either sold fresh

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or cured in the fish-curing yard on the Church Island. The proceeds by sale of such fish amounted to Rs. 338-4-0, of which Rs. 241-12-6 represent the sale-proceeds of the fish cured on the Church Island.

(h) As no attempt was made to use the trawler commercially the question does not arise.

Industries

Establishment of peripatetic weaving schools in Cuddapah district.

* 306 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: With reference to the answers given to clause (ii) of my question No. 1753, answered on 15th March 1928, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what steps have been taken to establish peripatetic weaving schools;

(b) what allotment has been made for the grant-in-aid of such institutions for the year 1928–29; and

(c) what special arrangements have been made to push on co-operative organizations in the Ceded districts to assist the weavers in disposing of the products of their looms and also to provide loans for the purchase of comparatively improved appliances?

A.—(a) The District Boards have been addressed on the subject. Replies received so far are under consideration.

(b) None.

(c) A scheme for the formation of weavers co-operative societies with special reference to the provision of a central agency for marketting their cloth is under the consideration of the Director of Industries and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. No definite steps have yet been taken to start co-operative societies for advancing loans to weavers for the purchase of comparatively costly appliances, but the matter is under consideration.

[For further list of starred questions, vide page 480 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Completion of the Markandeya River project in Salem district.

307 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps on the request of the public meeting of the citizens of Salem district held in May 1927 urging the taking in hand and early completion of the Markandeya River project in Salem district;

(b) whether the said project, if completed, will irrigate some 5,000 acres of wet land;

(c) whether at present Government is obliged to make large remissions annually;